

## CHEROKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

PO Box 460  
Gaffney, SC 29342

**GRADES** PK-12

**ENROLLMENT** 8,869 Students

**SUPERINTENDENT** Dr. William B. James 864-902-3500

**BOARD CHAIR** Ms. Ola H. Copeland 864-489-9528

**FISCAL AUTHORITY** District Board

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

### ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

# 2004

#### ABSOLUTE RATING:

**AVERAGE**

Absolute Ratings of Districts with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
1	13	8	0	0

#### IMPROVEMENT RATING:

**AVERAGE**

#### ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

**NO**

This district met 25 out of 29 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

#### SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:**

**WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM**

**WWW.SCEOC.ORG**

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
<b>2001</b>	Average	Below Average	N/A
<b>2002</b>	Average	Average	N/A
<b>2003</b>	Average	Average	No
<b>2004</b>	Average	Average	No

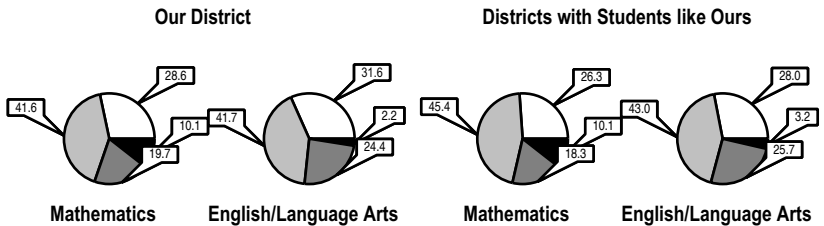
**DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS**





- **Excellent** - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Good** - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Average** - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Below Average** - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- **Unsatisfactory** - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**PERCENT OF STUDENT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING**

Percent of students tested in 2003-04 whose 2002-03 test scores were located.

79.9%

**PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)****Definition of Critical Terms**

	<b>Advanced</b>	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	<b>Proficient</b>	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	<b>Basic</b>	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	<b>Below Basic</b>	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

**NOTE:** Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.**HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (HSAP) EXAM PASSAGE RATE: SECOND YEAR STUDENTS**

	<b>Our District</b>			<b>Districts with Students like Ours</b>		
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Passed both subtests</b>	74.1	N/A	N/A	74.8	N/A	N/A
<b>Passed 1 subtest</b>	12.1	N/A	N/A	13.5	N/A	N/A
<b>Passed no subtests</b>	13.9	N/A	N/A	11.6	N/A	N/A

**ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIP\***

<b>Percent of</b>	<b>Our District</b>	<b>Districts with Students like Ours</b>
<b>Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*</b>	17.7	12.3
<b>Seniors who met the SAT/ACT requirement</b>	17.7	12.5
<b>Seniors who met the grade point average</b>	55.3	48.8

\*Using only the SAT/ACT and grade point average requirements

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
English/Language Arts							
All Students	4,227	99.8	31.6	41.8	24.4	2.2	26.6
Gender							
Male	2,181	99.9	36.7	42.9	19.1	1.3	20.4
Female	2,046	99.8	26.2	40.6	30.1	3.2	33.3
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	2,906	99.8	25.8	42.6	28.9	2.7	31.6
African-American	1,185	99.8	44.0	40.6	14.3	1.1	15.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	23	100.0	31.8	31.8	36.4	0.0	36.4
Hispanic	110	100.0	57.0	33.3	8.6	1.1	9.7
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Disability Status							
Not Disabled	3,767	99.9	27.2	44.1	26.5	2.2	28.7
Disabled	460	99.6	68.3	22.4	7.5	1.9	9.3
Migrant Status							
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	4,227	99.8	31.6	41.8	24.4	2.2	26.6
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	81	100.0	75.7	21.4	2.9	0.0	2.9
Non-Limited English Proficient	4,146	99.8	30.8	42.1	24.8	2.2	27.0
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	2,549	99.7	40.6	41.8	16.6	1.0	17.7
Full-pay meals	1,676	100.0	18.7	41.7	35.7	3.9	39.6
Mathematics							
All Students	4,228	99.7	28.6	41.6	19.7	10.1	29.8
Gender							
Male	2,181	99.9	30.6	40.7	19.7	9.1	28.7
Female	2,047	99.6	26.5	42.5	19.7	11.3	31.0
Racial/Ethnic Group							
White	2,906	99.7	22.6	42.6	21.9	12.8	34.8
African-American	1,186	99.8	42.2	39.2	14.9	3.7	18.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	23	100.0	13.6	50.0	13.6	22.7	36.4
Hispanic	110	100.0	46.2	40.9	9.7	3.2	12.9
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Disability Status							
Not Disabled	3,768	99.8	24.4	43.2	21.4	10.9	32.4
Disabled	460	99.6	63.4	28.2	4.9	3.5	8.4
Migrant Status							
Migrant	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	4,228	99.7	28.6	41.6	19.7	10.1	29.8
English Proficiency							
Limited English Proficient	81	100.0	52.9	41.4	5.7	0.0	5.7
Non-Limited English Proficient	4,147	99.7	28.2	41.6	19.9	10.3	30.2
Socio-Economic Status							
Subsidized meals	2,550	99.6	36.7	42.7	15.3	5.3	20.6
Full-pay meals	1,676	99.9	16.8	40.0	26.0	17.2	43.2

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

**PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL**

		<i>Enrollment 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
<b>English/Language Arts</b>								
<b>2003</b>	Grade 3	714	99.9	22.3	38.1	36.4	3.2	39.6
	Grade 4	723	99.7	32.2	41.9	24.3	1.5	25.8
	Grade 5	735	99.5	37.0	44.8	17.6	0.6	18.2
	Grade 6	712	99.9	45.3	36.0	16.6	2.1	18.7
	Grade 7	681	99.4	36.3	47.9	15.3	0.5	15.8
	Grade 8	765	99.1	42.2	43.3	13.4	1.1	14.5
<b>2004</b>	Grade 3	680	99.7	21.5	33.0	40.2	5.2	45.5
	Grade 4	710	99.9	25.8	42.5	30.8	0.9	31.7
	Grade 5	732	99.9	30.1	49.7	19.8	0.4	20.2
	Grade 6	725	99.9	41.8	34.1	21.4	2.7	24.1
	Grade 7	711	99.9	35.0	48.9	15.1	1.0	16.1
	Grade 8	678	99.9	36.9	43.8	17.5	1.8	19.3
<b>Mathematics</b>								
<b>2003</b>	Grade 3	714	99.9	17.9	49.5	20.6	12.0	32.6
	Grade 4	723	99.9	23.9	42.7	20.3	13.1	33.4
	Grade 5	735	99.7	28.3	45.2	18.6	7.8	26.4
	Grade 6	712	99.9	30.1	35.5	23.4	11.0	34.4
	Grade 7	681	99.6	33.8	41.8	14.2	10.2	24.4
	Grade 8	765	99.9	38.2	45.3	12.4	4.1	16.5
<b>2004</b>	Grade 3	680	99.6	20.3	48.6	25.2	5.8	31.1
	Grade 4	710	99.9	21.4	43.4	20.5	14.7	35.3
	Grade 5	732	99.9	27.8	45.6	18.2	8.3	26.6
	Grade 6	725	99.9	29.3	37.5	19.7	13.5	33.2
	Grade 7	711	99.6	36.5	35.3	18.0	10.2	28.2
	Grade 8	678	99.7	38.5	41.9	14.0	5.7	19.6

**SCHOOLS IN "SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS"**

These schools will be reported in a separate document.

**DEFINITION OF SCHOOLS IN "SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS"**

Title I schools that fail to make adequate yearly progress for two consecutive years

**HSAP PERFORMANCE BY GROUP**

	<i>Enrollment 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
<b>English/Language Arts</b>							
All Students	677	98.1	15.9	29.2	31.2	23.6	54.8
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	323	97.8	23.1	31.8	25.3	19.8	45.1
Female	354	98.3	9.6	27.0	36.5	27.0	63.5
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>							
White	458	98.3	10.8	24.5	34.7	30.0	64.6
African-American	201	97.5	28.3	39.3	24.1	8.4	32.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	11	100.0	18.2	45.5	27.3	9.1	36.4
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>							
Not Disabled	620	98.5	10.8	30.6	33.2	25.4	58.6
Disabled	57	93.0	76.5	13.7	7.8	2.0	9.8
<b>Migrant Status</b>							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	677	98.1	15.9	29.2	28.3	23.6	54.8
<b>English Proficiency</b>							
Limited English Proficient	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	672	98.1	15.7	29.0	31.5	23.8	55.2
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>							
Subsidized meals	342	97.1	25.8	34.7	27.9	11.7	39.6
Full-pay meals	335	99.1	6.1	23.9	34.6	35.5	70.0

<b>Mathematics</b>							
All Students	677	97.2	21.8	27.2	28.3	22.7	51.0
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	323	96.3	27.4	26.4	25.1	21.1	46.2
Female	354	98.0	16.9	27.9	31.1	24.1	55.2
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>							
White	458	97.4	15.9	23.4	32.3	28.4	60.7
African-American	201	96.5	36.0	35.4	19.6	9.0	28.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	6	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	11	100.0	18.2	54.5	27.3	N/A	27.3
American Indian/Alaskan	1	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
<b>Disability Status</b>							
Not Disabled	620	97.6	17.4	27.3	30.5	24.7	55.2
Disabled	57	93.0	72.5	25.5	2.0	N/A	2.0
<b>Migrant Status</b>							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Migrant	677	97.2	21.8	27.2	28.3	22.7	51.0
<b>English Proficiency</b>							
Limited English Proficient	5	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	672	97.2	21.5	27.3	28.3	22.9	51.2
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>							
Subsidized meals	342	95.9	33.2	32.9	22.7	11.2	33.9
Full-pay meals	335	98.5	10.5	21.5	33.8	34.2	68.0

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

**PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS**

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2004		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate		Met State Objective
	n	%	n	%	n	%	
All students	450	88.2%	407	17.7%	506	72.7%	N/A
<b>Gender</b>							
Male	224	85.7%	187	18.7%	251	66.1%	
Female	225	91.1%	220	16.8%	255	79.2%	
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>							
White	310	91.9%	278	19.1%	346	75.4%	
African American	130	80.8%	120	14.2%	149	66.4%	
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	I/S	3	I/S	3	I/S	
Hispanic	5	60.0%	6	16.7%	7	71.4%	
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
<b>Disability Status</b>							
Not disabled	411	90.5%	378	18.8%	459	76.5%	
Disabilities other than speech	38	65.8%	29	3.4%	47	36.2%	
<b>Migrant Status</b>							
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Non-migrant	449	88.4%	407	17.7%	N/A	N/A	
<b>English Proficiency</b>							
Limited English proficient	2	I/S	0	N/A	1	I/S	
Non-LEP	447	88.4%	407	17.7%	504	72.6%	
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>							
Subsidized meals	156	85.9%	131	29.8%	203	62.1%	
Full-pay meals	293	89.8%	276	12.0%	303	79.9%	

\* Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

**EXAM PASSAGE RATE BY SPRING 2004**

	Our District	Districts with Students like Ours
Percent	88.2%	94.0%

**GRADUATION RATE**

	Our District	Districts with Students like Ours
Number of Students	506	549
Number of Diplomas	368	412
Rate	72.7%	74.8%

**2003-04 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS**

SAT	Verbal		Math		Total	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
District	470	466	472	481	942	947
State	493	491	496	495	989	986
Nation	507	508	519	518	1026	1026

ACT	English		Math		Reading		Science		Total	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
District	18.8	18.2	18.6	18.9	19.5	18.9	19.3	18.8	19.2	18.8
State	18.7	18.8	19.0	19.1	19.4	19.4	19.2	19.3	19.2	19.3
Nation	20.3	20.4	20.6	20.7	21.2	21.3	20.8	20.9	20.8	20.9

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n= 8,869)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	99.6%	N/C	97.1%	97.2%
Retention rate	3.8%	Up from 0.1%	5.5%	5.3%
Attendance rate	95.3%	Up from 94.8%	96.0%	96.2%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	1.3%		5.7%	5.8%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	1.2%		4.8%	5.1%
Eligible for gifted and talented	17.9%	Up from 16.3%	12.4%	11.6%
On academic plans	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
On academic probation	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	6.8%	Up from 6.6%	11.6%	10.9%
Older than usual for grade	2.2%	Down from 2.3%	5.1%	5.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.3%	Down from 1.3%	1.0%	1.1%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	8.7%	Down from 8.8%	9.6%	9.9%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	385	Down from 474	170	157
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	113	Up from 69	46	39
Annual dropout rate	4.5%	Up from 3.5%	4.0%	2.9%
Teachers (n= 646)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	54.2%	Down from 54.3%	48.9%	50.0%
Continuing contract teachers	84.4%	Down from 84.8%	85.4%	84.6%
Highly qualified teachers**	92.1%	N/A	92.4%	92.5%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	4.4%		4.1%	4.4%
Teachers returning from previous year	91.7%	No change	88.8%	89.9%
Teacher attendance rate	94.6%	Down from 95.3%	94.9%	94.7%
Average teacher salary	\$40,734	Up 0.3%	\$40,271	\$40,566
Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.3%	N/C	0.4%	0.3%
Prof. development days/teacher	12.4 days	Up from 10.6 days	12.8 days	12.0 days
District				
Superintendent's years at district	4.0	Up from 3.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	20.6 to 1	Down from 22.2 to 1	21.0 to 1	21.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	87.9%	Down from 88.5%	89.7%	89.5%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$7,135	Up 0.7%	\$7,252	\$7,217
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	55.6%	Down from 56.8%	56.5%	55.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	97.5%	Down from 99.0%	97.5%	97.3%
Number of schools	18	No change	11	8
Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
Portable classrooms	2.2%	Up from 2.1%	2.4%	4.3%
Average age in years of school facilities	21	No change	26	26
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	18	No change	10	8
Average administrator salary	\$70,568		\$66,102	\$67,300

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	100.0%	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	93.8%	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	95.3%	Yes

\*\*NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

**SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE**

<b>Board Membership</b>	9 trustees elected to single-member seats
<b>Fiscal Authority</b>	District Board
<b>Average Number of Hours of Training Annually</b>	25.0 per board member
<b>Percent new trustees completing orientation</b>	100.0%

**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Cherokee County School District is the second largest business in Cherokee County. The school district employs more than 1200 educators and support staff and has a 55 million dollar operating budget. Twelve elementary schools, four middle schools, two high schools, a technology center, and a district alternative program provide a world-class learning environment for more than 9,000 students. Northwest and Grassy Pond elementary schools have new classroom additions, and a new primary school has been completed in Blacksburg. A year-round instructional program is being implemented at Alma, Mary Bramlett, and Luther Vaughan elementary schools for 2004-2005.

The district's well-trained instructional staff is committed to "Connecting With Students." More than 61 percent of Cherokee County teachers hold at least a master's degree, 23 district teachers have attained National Accreditation status, and the District has one of the highest percentages of teachers with advanced degrees. More than \$828,000 dollars in staff development monies is used to train teachers and school administrators in the development of programs and strategies to improve instruction driven by state standards.

Partnerships with Spartanburg Technical College, Winthrop University, and other institutions enable us to operate a state of the art Distance Learning Center. A broadcast studio and Distance Education Learning Center (DELIC), one of 35 in the state, is an extension of SCETV's network and is a production and broadcast facility. More than 1,000 instructional diskettes and videos are available in this mini-studio that produces and transmits programs district-wide via special satellites.

Ninth and tenth grade students are experiencing double doses of math and English/language arts in a new Academy Program while Academic Assistance and Title I Project funds provide remediation and enrichment. More than a million dollars in grant monies is utilized for reading enrichment.

Outstanding district achievements include:

More than six million dollars in scholarships.

Average SAT score of 1388 by top 5% of high school graduates, 2003.

100% pass rate for Calculus and Computer Science AP exams.

More than 250 Life/Palmetto Scholarships in 2003-2004.

53% of schools met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards - percent moving to Proficient category.

Only 23.4% of schools throughout the state met this standard in 2003.

Eleven schools met 84.9% or 203 of 245 State Performance Objectives in 2003.

Six schools were named Red Carpet Schools in 2003-2004.

Four schools were named Palmetto Silver or Gold Award winners in 2003-2004.

District elementary school is the South Carolina Exemplary Reading School for 2004.

Learning and excelling are the norm for our students. The combined efforts of supportive parents, excellent students, dedicated and determined educators, and a concerned and caring community 'make the difference' for Cherokee County students.

Dr. William James, Superintendent